



From IEMA Director James K. Joseph

I'm pleased to present to you the first issue of Inside IEMA, a monthly newsletter designed to increase communications with our many stakeholders. Each month we will keep you informed of the latest developments and provide insight into the many ways IEMA serves the residents of Illinois.

IEMA's mission is to "Prepare, protect and assist the citizens of the state of Illinois through planning, prevention, training, mitigation, response and recovery to all hazards, natural or manmade." It's a challenging mission that can't be accomplished without strong relationships with our partners throughout the state. We hope this newsletter will be yet another avenue for strengthening those relationships.

November ushers in an exciting time at IEMA as the agency realigns to enhance our ability to fulfill that important mission. The organizational changes are the result of an in-depth look over several months at the agency's processes, procedures, equipment and most important assets, our people. Check out the article in this issue for more information on the changes that will enhance our service to the residents of Illinois.

Please take a few minutes to read this inaugural issue of Inside IEMA. As always, we welcome your comments and input.



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Reorganization Will Enhance Agency's Operations

IEMA Director James K. Joseph recently announced a reorganization, effective Nov. 1, that will enhance IEMA's ability to fulfill its important responsibilities and help the agency deliver exceptional customer service, streamline operations, eliminate duplicative efforts and boost efficiency.

The changes, which will be transparent to many people and organizations that interact with IEMA, include:

Phil Anello, former bureau chief for Disaster Recovery and Risk Reduction (DR3), is the agency's new Chief Accountability Officer. Sections within the DR3 bureau have been reorganized within the agency to better align their functions as follows:

- The Catastrophic Disaster Preparedness Section is now part of the Strategic Planning Cell within the Bureau of Preparedness and Grants Administration.
- The Mitigation and Infrastructure Section is now part of the Bureau of Preparedness and Grants Administration.
- The Hazardous Materials Section and LEPC program are now part of the Bureau of Radiation Safety.
- The Radiological Emergency Preparedness Section is now part of the Bureau of Nuclear Facility Safety.

In addition, the following functions also will be realigned within the agency:

- The Hazardous Materials Training and Preparedness functions previously in the Bureau of Preparedness and Grants Administration are now part of the Bureau of Radiation Safety's Environmental Monitoring Section.
- Personnel within the Bureau of Nuclear Facility Safety's Nuclear Monitoring Repair Unit are now part of the Bureau of Radiation Safety's Nuclear Calibration Lab Section.

The movement of personnel will result in changes in some contact information. If you experience any problems reaching your agency contacts, please call IEMA's main line at 217-782-2700 for assistance.

November is Winter Weather Preparedness Month

The updated Winter Weather Preparedness Guide is now available on the Ready Illinois website at http://www.illinois.gov/iema/Preparedness/Documents/winter_storm_preparedness_guidebook.pdf.



Gov. Bruce Rauner (left) and Director of Public Safety Rodger Heaton (right) recognized former IEMA Director Mike Chamness during the 2015 IEMA Training Summit for his vision, dedication and many contributions to public safety in the state of Illinois. Chamness also served as chairman of the Illinois Terrorism Task Force for more than a decade.

IEMA Staffer Testifies Before Congressional Subcommittee on Nuclear Materials Transportation

Kelly Horn, head of the Environmental Management Section within IEMA's Bureau of Radiation Safety, provided testimony to the U.S. House Environment and the Economy Subcommittee on October 1 regarding the transportation of nuclear materials.

Horn, who also serves as co-chairman of the Midwestern Radioactive Materials Transportation Committee of the Council of State Governments, was invited to testify by Rep. John Shimkus of Illinois. He was one of four experts on a panel of witnesses who stressed the importance of involving state and regional stakeholders in development of policy regarding nuclear materials transportation.



In his testimony, Horn stated, "States are co-regulators of transportation because we bear the primary responsibility for protecting the health and safety of the public and the environment. Additionally, for transportation of spent nuclear fuel, the responsibility of training emergency response personnel, monitoring shipments, conducting inspections and providing escorts becomes the responsibility of the states.

"Because states have well-established working relationships with local community officials, law

enforcement and first responders along the shipping routes, we are also the intermediary between the federal government and local officials."

In a press release following the committee hearing, Rep. Shimkus stated, "Today's hearing reaffirmed the fact that engaging with state and local stakeholders to share information, identify routes and train emergency responders is of utmost importance when formulating a long-term plan to transport nuclear material."

Horn oversees IEMA's Spent Nuclear Fuel and High-Level Waste Inspection and Escort Program, which ensures the safe transport of these shipments through Illinois. The program has inspected and escorted more than 1,000 shipments of spent nuclear fuel, transuranic waste and highway route controlled quantities of radioactive materials since the mid-1980s.

Illinois has a significant stake in nuclear materials transportation. Eleven reactors currently operate at six power stations, and a now-closed nuclear power station in Zion is undergoing decommissioning. The state also is home to the only commercial away-from-reactor spent fuel storage facility in the nation. More than 9,600 metric tons of spent nuclear fuel are stored in spent fuel pools or dry cask storage containers in the state.

Given the state's geographical location and relatively large amount of spent nuclear fuel in storage, it is obvious Illinois and its Midwestern neighbors will be greatly impacted when it comes time to move spent nuclear fuel to interim storage or a repository.

More information about IEMA's inspection and escort program is available on the IEMA website at <http://www.illinois.gov/iema/Info/Documents/IEMA%20034%20Spent%20Fuel%20Escort.pdf>.

IEMA Assists in Search for Missing Radioactive Well Logging Source Holder

On Oct. 16, an IEMA licensee notified the agency that it was unable to locate a radioactive well logging source holder. The call triggered an IEMA-led search for the device in 16 Illinois counties and two counties in Indiana. As of press time, the device had not been located.

The missing source, which contains Americium-241, is owned by Wayne County Well Surveys, Inc., a well logging company based in Fairfield, Illinois. It is used to assess geological formations in oil and gas, groundwater, mineral and geothermal exploration.

Radiological response team members from IEMA's Bureau of Radiation Safety reviewed company records to determine where the device was last seen and define the search area, which included job sites and transportation routes between those sites and the company's headquarters.

Counties in the search area include Clay, Cumberland, Edwards, Effingham, Franklin, Hamilton, Jasper, Jefferson, Macon, Marion, Moultrie, Richland, Shelby, Wabash, Wayne and White counties in Illinois and Gibson and Pike counties in Indiana. IEMA informed the Illinois search counties through a conference call prior to information being released to the public.

Searches have been conducted on foot as well as in slow-moving vehicles equipped with radiation equipment designed to detect Americium-241. IEMA has been assisted in the search by personnel from the Illinois Department of Transportation and Illinois State Police. The company's 14 employees also have been involved in the search.

On Oct. 19, IEMA issued a press release to inform the public in the search area and ask that they contact local law enforcement if they find the container. The radioactive source is well shielded by the rugged shipping container and



another welded container, and anyone finding it would not be exposed to dangerous radiation exposure. However, IEMA urges anyone who has any knowledge of the location of the container or comes across this container to not approach it but rather contact local law enforcement.

The missing source is an International Atomic Energy Agency category 3 source (categories 1 and 2 are the most hazardous). If unshielded and not safely managed or security protected, exposure to the source could cause permanent injury to a person who handled it or who was otherwise in contact with it.

The IEMA investigation is ongoing, and potential civil penalties will be determined as part of a formal review that considers several factors, including the severity of the violations and promptness of corrective measures. Civil penalties up to \$10,000 per day per identified violation are possible under IEMA's regulations.

Elgin Community College Achieves Ready to Respond Campus Designation



Don Kauerauf (IEMA) presents the Ready to Respond Campus plaque to Elgin Community College President Dr. David Sam as ECC Board Chair Dr. Donna Redmer looks on.

In early October, Elgin Community College became the fifth campus to achieve the Ready to Respond Campus designation. The IEMA initiative is aimed at enhancing campus safety through a comprehensive, community-based preparedness and response effort, including public safety, campus administration, faculty and students.

The official presentation of the designation to Elgin Community College came just days after a deadly shooting at a community college in Oregon, highlighting the need for campuses to be well prepared for all types of hazards.

Elgin Community College is the first campus to receive the designation that was not involved in the pilot program, which was launched in 2013. The voluntary program was opened to all colleges and universities in the state in 2014.

To achieve Ready to Respond Campus status, a college or university must meet criteria that address hazard identification, risk assessment and/or consequence analysis, operational planning, incident management, training and

exercise. In addition, the campus must develop and maintain a violence prevention plan and implement a campus outreach and education campaign.

The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Richland Community College, Parkland College and Augustana College also have received the Ready to Respond Campus designation. Several other campuses currently are working toward the designation.

Colleges receiving the designation can use the logo on official correspondence, websites, brochures and other media. The logo represents the institutions' commitment to preparedness for all types of threats and hazards.

The designation is valid for three years; at that time colleges can submit updated documentation in order to renew the status.

Colleges and universities interested in pursuing the Ready to Respond designation can find program information at www.Ready.Illinois.gov.

More than 667,000 Illinoisans Participate in Great ShakeOut Earthquake Drill

The 2015 Great ShakeOut earthquake drill was a resounding success in Illinois, with more than 667,000 people registering to participate – nearly 90,000 more than for the 2014 drill. A large portion of those participating (537,000) were from K-12 schools and districts throughout the state.

Illinois participants joined more than 22.6 million people around the world who registered to participate in drills on Oct. 15 at 10:15 a.m. With several other states and counties conducting drills at other times during the year, the total number of participants for 2015 ShakeOut drills is expected to top 43.4 million, up from 26.5 million in 2014.

IEMA coordinated efforts to encourage participation in the drill through emails to schools, colleges, businesses, government

agencies and others, as well as through press releases and interviews.

While some people have questioned the potential for major earthquakes in Illinois, the state is actually adjacent to two seismic zones, the New Madrid Seismic Zone and the Wabash Valley Seismic Zone. In fact, some of the most powerful earthquakes to ever occur in the U.S. happened a little more than 200 years ago in the New Madrid Seismic Zone. That series of earthquakes lasted for several months, and shaking was felt as far away as the East Coast.

Illinois has participated in ShakeOut drills for the past five years.



Staff in the Bureau of Preparedness and Grants Administration participated in the Great ShakeOut Drill on Oct. 15.

Teams Tackle Response Tasks in CERT Challenge

Community Emergency Response Teams (CERTs) from 10 jurisdictions took part in the sixth annual Prairie State CERT Challenge Oct. 3 at the College of DuPage's Homeland Security Education Center in Glen Ellyn.

Team members had up to 30 minutes to complete tasks at eight different stations during the challenge. Activities tested a variety of response skills, such as the ability to triage, treat and transport injured people, search and free victims trapped in debris, gather information about disaster sites, and perform preparedness functions.

Participating teams represented Buffalo Grove, Carol Stream, Chicago, Glen Ellyn, Highland Park, Huntley, Milton Township (DuPage County), Naperville, New Lenox, North (Elk Grove Village/Fremont Township – Lake County).



Photo courtesy of DuPage County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management

These volunteer response teams are part of the Citizen Corps program in Illinois, which is administered by IEMA. Eighty-four local jurisdictions in the state have active Citizen Corps Councils that oversee all homeland security-related volunteer programs in their communities; 57 have implemented the 20-hour CERT training program and maintain an active volunteer base.

State Retains EMAP Accreditation

Illinois' emergency preparedness and response program has once again retained national accreditation through the Emergency Management Accreditation Program (EMAP) after demonstrating compliance with all of the organization's rigorous national standards.

Illinois first attained EMAP accreditation in 2006, becoming just the sixth state to achieve the designation. The program was reviewed and reaccredited in 2010. Illinois currently is one of 35 states that are accredited by EMAP's voluntary program.

In order to receive EMAP accreditation and reaccreditation, states are required to demonstrate 100 percent compliance with 64 standards that cover key areas, such as program management, incident management, hazard mitigation, mutual

aid, communications and warning, public information and more.

A team of certified assessors from across the nation conducted a nearly week-long review of Illinois' program in July. The team's findings were submitted to the EMAP National Board for review and approval.

EMAP is an independent non-profit organization that fosters excellence and accountability in emergency management and homeland security programs by establishing credible standards applied in a peer review accreditation program. In addition to the state program, EMAP also accredits local, federal, institutions of higher education and international programs.



Comment Period on FEMA Damage Assessment Operating Manual Ends Nov. 14

In September, FEMA released its draft Damage Assessment Operating Manual for public comment. The manual is intended to establish national damage assessment standards developed from historic lessons learned and best practices already in use.

Once finalized, the manual is intended to increase the accuracy, consistency and efficiency of damage assessments by providing emergency management at all levels with clear information and defined roles and responsibilities.

While previous versions of the manual focused exclusively on the federal role, the proposed manual is built on a system that encourages

local information collection, state verification and federal validation.

A copy of the manual is available on the FEMA website at <http://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/109040>. Comments are due by Nov. 14 and should be directed to:

Mr. Ryan Buras
Senior Program Advisor
Public Assistance, Recovery Directorate, FEMA
500 C Street, SW, Mail Stop 3163
Washington, DC 20471

Check IEMA's Training Calendar for Upcoming Training

The IEMA training calendar includes a variety of training opportunities that are currently scheduled at various locations throughout Illinois. The courses, covering a variety of subject matter areas, are being provided by IEMA, the Illinois Fire Service Institute and the Illinois Department of Transportation, along with the National and Rural Domestic Preparedness Consortia.

These courses are all offered at no cost to first responders, volunteer organizations, private industry and others. The calendar also includes a listing of the exercises currently scheduled in Illinois.

Please visit the IEMA website (www.illinois.gov/iema) or the Ready Illinois website (www.Ready.Illinois.gov) for additional information on these courses and planned exercises.



State of Illinois
Illinois Emergency Management Agency

For more information on this newsletter, contact:

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